

Claim 5, line 1, please cancel "the preceding claim" and insert -- ~~claim 4~~ --.

Claim 6, line 1, please cancel "either of Claims 4 and 5" and insert -- ~~claim 4~~ --.

Claim 7, line 1, please cancel "either of Claims 4 and 5" and insert -- ~~claim 4~~ --.

Claim 8, line 1, please cancel "one of Claims 4 to 7" and insert -- ~~claim 4~~ --.

Claim 9, line 1, please cancel "one of Claims 4 to 8" and insert -- ~~claim 4~~ --.

Claim 10, line 1, please cancel "one of Claims 4 to 9" and insert -- ~~claim 4~~ --.

Claim 11, line 1, please cancel "one of Claims 1 to 10" and insert -- ~~claim 1~~ --.

Claim 12, line 1, please cancel "one of Claims 1 to 11" and insert -- ~~claim 1~~ --.

Claim 13, line 1, please cancel "one of Claims 1 to 12" and insert -- ~~claim 1~~ --.

Claim 14, lines 1 and 2, please cancel "either of Claims 12 and 13" and insert -- ~~claim 12~~ --.

Claim 15, line 1, please cancel "one of Claims 12 to 14" and insert -- ~~claim 12~~ --.

Claim 16, lines 1 and 2, please cancel "either of Claims 12 and 13" and insert -- ~~claim 12~~ --.

Claim 17, line 1, please cancel "one of Claims 12 to 16" and insert -- ~~claim 12~~ --.

Claim 18, line 1, please cancel "one of Claims 1 to 17" and insert - -claim 1- -.

Claim 19, line 4, please cancel "one of the preceding claims" and insert - -claim 1- -.

Claim 20, line 1, please cancel "the preceding claim" and insert - -claim 19- -.

Claim 21, lines 1 and 2, please cancel "either of Claims 19 and 20" and insert - -claim 19- -;

line 3, please cancel according to one of Claims 1 to 18".

Claim 22, line 1, please cancel "either of Claims 19 or 20" and insert - -claim 19- -;

line 3, please cancel "according to one of Claims 1 to 18".

Claim 23, line 1, please cancel "either of Claims 19 or 20" and insert - -claim 19- -;

line 3, please insert - - - - after "material";

line 4, please cancel "according to one of Claims 1 to 18".

REMARKS

Applicants have amended the specification and claim 1 to add the reference number D 3420 of the standard ASTM which is fully supported by page 4, line 25 of PCT/FR99/02455 in the original text of the description. An Abstract of the Disclosure has also been added to the application.

Applicants have also amended the claims in order to reduce the initial filing fee by deleting the multiple dependent claims from the application. However, Applicants retain the right to reintroduce any subject matter canceled by the present Amendment